

House cleaning is necessary

Package Maintainers Step up

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SUSE

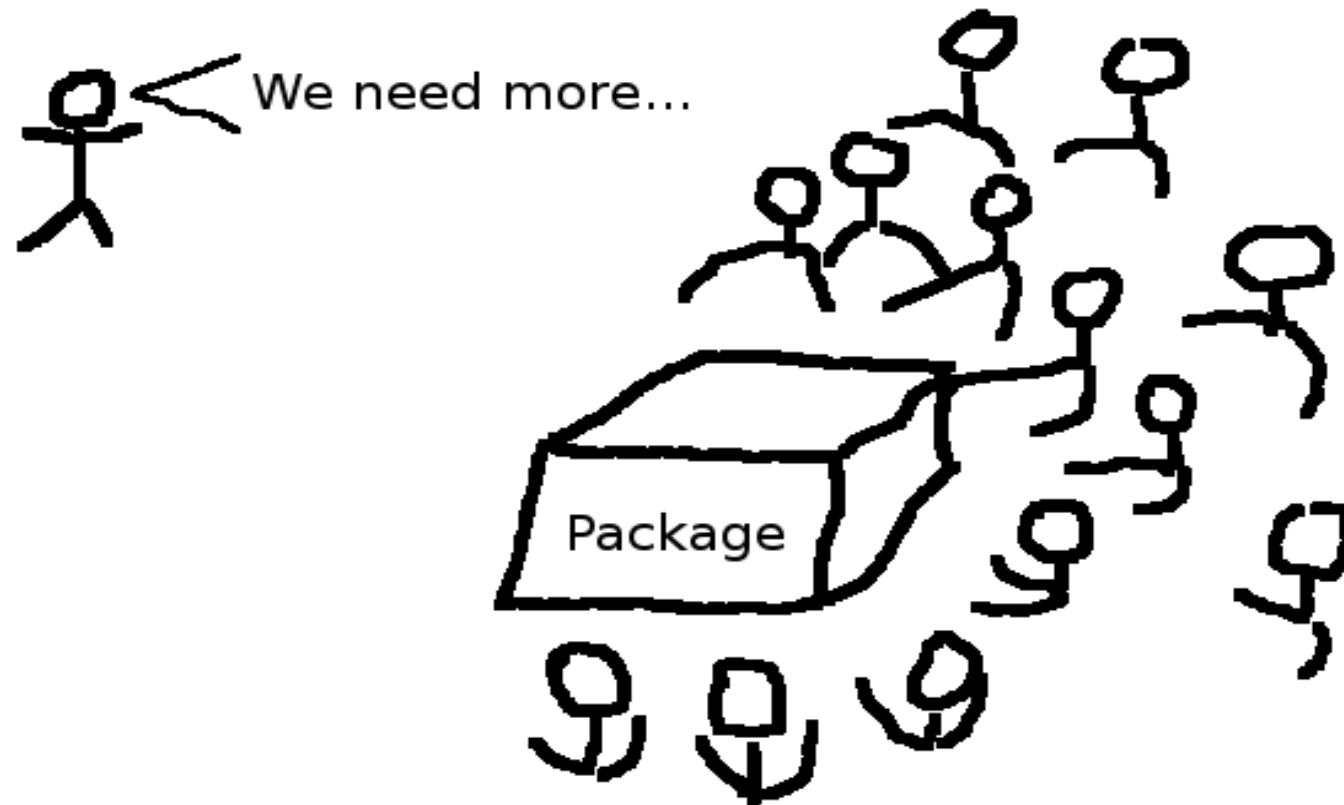


Overview

- Background
- Proposed solution
- But.....
- Why?
- Transition
- Discussion

Background

- The current package maintainer model and presentation thereof



- But who is responsible?











































Background

- Taking a look at aaa-base
- Most packages have this problem

openSUSE Build Service > Projects > Base:System > Packages > aaa_base > Users

Overview Sources Repositories Revisions Requests **Users** Advanced

Users of aaa_base (Project Base:System)

User	Roles					Actions
	Maintainer	Bugowner	Reviewer	Downloader	Reader	
 Andreas Jaeger (a_jaeger)	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
 Brandon Philips (philipsb)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
 Cristian Rodríguez (elvigia)	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
 Danny Kukawka (dkukawka)	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
 Dirk Mueller (dirkmueller)	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
 Dr. Werner Fink (WernerFink)	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
 Greg Kroah-Hartman (gregkh)	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
 Guanjun He (gjhe)	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
 Hannes Reinecke (hreinecke)	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
 Hans Petter Jansson (hpjansson)	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
 Helmut Schaa (hschaa)	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
 Hendrik Vogelsang (hennevogel)	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
 Holger Macht (hmacht)	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
 Ihno Krumreich (ihno)	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

- And many more



Background

- The results
 - No one feels/is responsible
 - SRs linger
 - Everyone has notification turned off, thus when things break no one knows
 - Problems with packages are left to be addressed by people working in integration
 - People with specific questions do not know whom to contact
 - The buck is passed

Proposed solution

- Let's clean it up



- A package should have a small number of maintainers, no more than 5
 - These should all be marked as Maintainer, Bugowner, and Reviewer
 - They all get a message when the package build fails, this cannot be disabled
 - They all get a message when an SR is submitted, this cannot be disabled
 - “Inherited”, i.e. devel project maintainers are not shown in the “Users” view

Proposed solution

- A devel project should have a maximum number of maintainers proportional to the number of packages it contains, maybe 10 per 500 packages, possibly cap at 25
 - The devel project maintainers can step in on any package and help
 - Accept SRs
 - Fix build issues
 -
 - Do not show up as “Users” for individual packages in the devel project, unless they actually are
 - Basically have responsibility for the devel project, keep a “green” sheet, i.e. all packages building



Proposed solution

- We have a number of people that are solely focused on the distribution
 - Not listed in any package as maintainer, unless they actually maintain the package
 - Can help out with any package and project
 - Should be a reasonably small group, maybe 15 people



Proposed solution

- Post more tracking information
 - Package updates in devel project
 - Reviews in devel project
 - Packages forwarded to factory
 - New packages in devel project



A+

- Rate devel projects
 - Build failures over time

- The idea behind this is to
 - Publicly recognize those that actively maintain their packages in good state
 - Entice devel project maintainers to create a project that is nurturing and welcoming to new package contributions
 - Gain an understanding about who is “ready” to take the next step, i.e. be a devel project maintainer or integration focused contributor.

Proposed solution

- Expected result
 - People are more engaged
 - Fewer broken packages
 - Using packages via link from other devel projects is more reliable
 - We have a better/more stable environment to develop and collaborate in
 - Less trouble with our time based releases



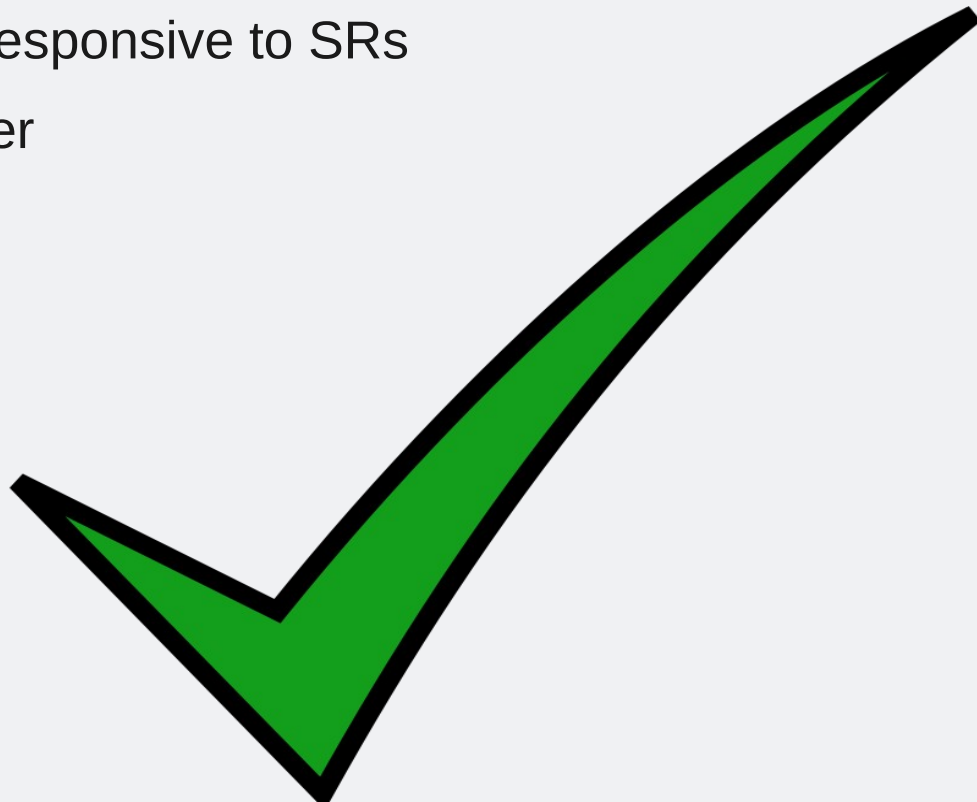
But.....

- What about my freedom to just mess around
 - Use your home project
 - Use :Testing :Unstable projects
- Now I have to be responsible
 - Yes, you do
 - We do want to have a distro we can release
 - On time
 - With good quality
- I'm a volunteer you cannot tell me what to do
 - Correct !!!
 - You do not have to maintain a package, if you do you are expected to abide by the rules, this is no different than today (the rules would change)



Why?

- Devel projects feed factory
 - We do not want to keep slipping our schedule
 - We want to have a more stable base for cross devel project package usage
 - We need to be more responsive to SRs
 - We want to scale better



Transition

- Not easy...
 - Maybe we'll just “kick” everyone off the “Users” list that is not marked as maintainer
 - Empty packages get listed somewhere for people to claim
 - Have people sign up as devel project maintainers
 - Anyone marked as maintainer gets an e-mail
- We might need a few temporary scripts

Discussion





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